ABSTRACT

A system and method for universal control of an ignitor within a gas appliance is disclosed. The system includes an ignitor distinguishing circuit in communication with the ignitor and having a signal representative of the ignitor current through the ignitor output therefrom, and a controller in communication with the ignitor distinguishing circuit and adapted to determine the scope of the ignitor based on the signal received from the ignitor distinguishing circuit. Specifically, the controller stores a plurality of control programs for controlling a plurality of corresponding ignitor types and executes the control program corresponding to the type of ignitor determined thereby.